PATENT
P55394

REMARKS

The final Office action mailed on 13 May 2005 (Paper No. 0) has been carefully considered.

Claims 2, 6 thru 9 and 21 thru 70 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 3 of the final Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 8, 9, 21, 22, 25 thru 27, 30 thru 32, 35 thru 38, 40, 41, 43 thru 47, 50 and 63 thru 70 under 35 U.S.C. §103 for alleged unpatentability over Lien *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,386,567 in view of Hendry *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,682,529 and Nolan *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,049,316. In paragraph 6 of the final Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 2, 6, 7, 23, 24, 28, 29, 33, 34, 39, 42, 48, 49 and 51 thru 62 under 35 U.S.C. §103 for alleged unpatentability over Lien *et al.* '567 in view of Hendry *et al.* '529 and Nolan *et al.* '316, and further in view of Siefert, U.S. Patent No. 6,662,240. For the reasons stated below, it is submitted that the invention recited in the claims, as now amended, is distinguishable from the prior art cited by the Examiner so as to preclude rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Lien *et al.* '567 discloses a hot removable and insertion of attachments on fully initialized computer systems. Hendry *et al.* '529 discloses a system for dynamically accommodating changes in display configuration by notifying of changes to currently running application programs so as to generate information by the application programs in conformity with changes to the configuration. Nolan *et al.* '316 discloses a personal computer (PC) with multiple video-display refresh-rate configurations using active and default registers. Finally, Siefert '240 discloses an automated configuration of computer accessories. For the reasons stated below, none of these references, either

alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the invention recited in the independent claims of the present application.

Specifically, each of the method claims of the present application recites the step of providing the computer with a processing unit, a memory unit connected to the processing unit, and a digital data communication (DDC) interface connected to the processing unit, while some of the method claims also recite the video card connected to the processing unit and coupled to the video display unit. Similarly, each of the apparatus claims of the present application recites the combination of a computer system and a video display unit, with the computer system being recited as including a processing unit and a DDC interface, and in the case of some claims, a video card as described above.

None of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests such an arrangement as recited in the independent method and apparatus claims of the present application.

In addition, each of the independent claims of the present application recites the step or function of operating the DDC interface in the processing unit to read first data corresponding to the video display unit from the video display unit. None of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, discloses this step or function.

In response to the latter argument, the Examiner cites Nolan *et al.* '316, and specifically the

video BIOS, VESA BIOS extensions (VBE) 46 shown in Figure 5 of Nolan *et al.* '316 (*see* the first complete paragraph on page 4 of the final Office action). However, the VBE 46 of Nolan *et al.* '316 does not correspond to the digital data communications (DDC) interface recited in the independent claims of this application.

Specifically, the DDC interface as claimed is recited as being connected to the processing unit. In contrast, the VBE 46 of Nolan *et al.* '316 is described as being part of a graphic based subsystem composed of hardware, software and firmware contained within a Window-based portable PC (*see* column 6, lines 63-65 and Figure 5 of Nolan *et al.* '316). Thus, the VBE 46 does not appear to be a hardware-implemented DDC interface connected to a processing unit, as claimed. Rather, the VBE 46 appears to be a component of the processing unit itself for interfacing the display driver 42 (contained in the processing unit) to graphics hardware 50 (*see* Figure 5 and column 7, lines 16-20 of Nolan *et al.* '316).

In addition, there is nothing contained within the "four corners" of the disclosure of Lien *et al.* '567 or Hendry *et al.* '529, or in "Lien-Hendry" as referred to by the Examiner, which would motivate or instruct a person of ordinary skill in the art, upon reviewing "Lien-Hendry", to seek and obtain the disclosure of Nolan *et al.* '316 and/or to modify the disclosure of "Lien-Hendry" in accordance with the disclosure of Nolan *et al.* '316 to obtain the invention. It is respectfully submitted that the only reason that the Examiner has been able to develop a scenario for modifying "Lien-Hendry" in accordance with Nolan *et al.* '316 is that the Examiner has had the benefit of reviewing the teachings contained in the disclosure of the present application which, of course,

would not have been available to the person of ordinary skill in the art as of the date of the present invention.

Furthermore, independent claims 2, 6 and 7 recite the further step, as a part of the detection step, of operating the processing unit to carry out a polling operation periodically with respect to said DDC interface so as to determine whether the video display unit is newly coupled to said processing unit. None of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests this step as recited in independent claims 2, 6 and 7.

Independent claim 9 recites the detecting step as comprising the sensing of an interrupt signal generated by the DDC interface when the video display unit is newly coupled to the processing unit, the detecting step being performed after power has been newly supplied to the processing unit. None of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the detecting step as is recited in the last paragraph of claim 9.

The dependent claims provide further bases for distinguishing the invention from the prior art cited by the Examiner. For example, the "polling" operation discussed above is recited in more detailed in dependent claims 23, 24, 28, 29, 33, 34, 39, 42, 48 and 49. Moreover, the "interrupt signal" operation discussed above is recited in more detail in dependent claims 25, 30, 35 and 50. Thus, the latter claims further distinguish the invention from the prior art cited by the Examiner.

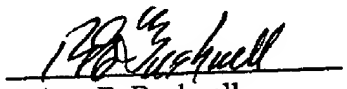
Finally, Lien *et al.* '567 does not contain a disclosure, and the Examiner has not pointed out

any disclosure, which would motivate a person of skill in the art to seek the secondary references cited by the Examiner, or which would instruct the person of skill in the art as to how to employ the secondary references to modify the disclosure of the primary reference (Lien *et al.* '567) so as to obtain the claimed invention. Thus, the combination of cited references is improper under 35 U.S.C. §103.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance, and early issuance thereof is solicited. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

No fee is incurred by this Response After Final.

Respectfully submitted,



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